approximately 89.27 million tonnes which includes 74.13 million tonnes exported to China out of total production of 155 million tonnes. The domestic consumption during the same period was about 58 million tonnes leaving a balance of around 8 million tonnes as surplus.

(b) Despite domestic production of around 420 million tonnes, China had to import a quantity of about 275.2 million tonnes from various countries, including India, during the year 2005 (Source: UNCTAD) to meet its growing demand.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration, at present.

Concern expressed by Singapore High Commission regarding SEZs

1648. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Singapore High Commission has expressed its unhappiness about the uncertainty surrounding the future of SEZs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No such communication has been received from Singapore High Commission.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of non bio-products

†1649. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of exported bio-products have been found to be non-bio products;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the people exporting the non-bio products to other countries in the name of bio-products have been identified;

(d) if so, the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to increase bio-production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) To promote organic farming in the country, Government has approved a Central Sector Plan Scheme, National Project on Organic Farming with an outlay of Rs. 57.05 crores from October, 2004 for production, promotion, certification and market development of organic farming during 10th Plan period with the following main components:-

(i) Putting in place a system of certification of organic produce.

(ii) Capacity building through service providers.

(iii) Financial support for commercial production units for production of organic inputs like fruits and vegetable waste compost, bio-fertilizer production and hatcheries for vermiculture.

(iv) Training, field demonstration, promotion and market development.

Besides, under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Agency (APEDA) is facilitating certification of the Organic Produce for export purpose.

Import of Natural Rubber

1650. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of natural rubber has increased during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to check imports of natural rubber?